

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Thomas John Nelson

Serial No.:

Filing Date:

Title: **"Interconnecting Disengageable
Flooring System"**

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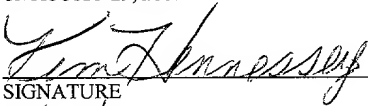
Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Docket No.: P1062P2P1

RECEIVED "CORRESPONDENCE"

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

<p>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL</p> <p>PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO:</p> <p>HONORABLE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS BOX PATENT APPLICATION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231</p> <p>ON AUGUST 29, 2001.</p> <p> SIGNATURE</p> <p>8/29/01 EL477811350US DATE EXPRESS MAIL LABEL</p>	
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants hereby submit a Preliminary Amendment for the above-referenced Patent Application. As this Preliminary Amendment is being filed contemporaneously with the filing of the above-referenced Patent Application, it is therefor considered timely filed.

AMENDMENTS

In The Description:

Please add the following language on page 2 of the application:

"DIVISIONAL STATEMENT

This is a divisional of Application Serial No. 09/436,317 filed November 8, 1999."

The following is a clean version of the Divisional Statement and preprinted here for the convenience of the Examiner.

This is a divisional of Application Serial No. 09/436,317 filed November 8, 1999.

In The Claims:

Cancel claims 1 – 47 and 59 - 62, without prejudice.

The following is a clean version of all pending claims of the present application under 37 C.F.R. 1.121(c)(3) and preprinted here for the convenience of the Examiner.

48. A disengageable connector for vertically and horizontally interconnecting individual flooring panels with identical edges to form a permanent or temporary laminate flooring surface on top of a support structure, said connector comprising: a base and a projection extending vertically from said base, said projection having top and bottom portions and consisting of identical right and left halves, the top portion of each half comprising

identical extensions extending horizontally in opposite directions equal distances substantially parallel to, separate from and above said base, and optionally, two additional protrusions extending vertically from said base, said two protrusions spaced apart from said projection and being located on either side of said projection.

49. The connector of claim 48 wherein the base is not designed to be in contact with the support structure upon interconnection of flooring panels.
50. The connector of claim 48 wherein the base is designed to be in contact with the support structure upon interconnection of flooring panels.
51. The connector of claim 48 wherein the protrusions vertically extend a distance less than the projection.
52. The connector of claim 48 wherein the connector is manufactured from metal.
53. The connector of claim 48 wherein the connector is manufactured from plastic.
54. The connector of claim 48 wherein the right and left halves of the projection further comprise recesses therein.
55. The connector of claim 48 wherein the base further comprises two recesses formed therein located between the protrusions and the projection.
56. The connector of claim 48 wherein said connector is an elongated track.
57. The connector of claim 48 wherein the projection extends substantially the entire length of the connector.
58. The connector of claim 48 including protrusions wherein the protrusions extend substantially the entire length of the connector.

Variable	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Age	34.5	10.2	18	65
Gender	50%	50%	Male	Female
Marital status	75%	25%	Married	Single
Education	12.5	1.5	9	16
Income	1500	500	500	3000
Occupation	10%	90%	Manager	Worker
Health status	80%	20%	Good	Poor
Smoking status	30%	70%	Smoker	Non-smoker
Alcohol consumption	10%	90%	Drinker	Non-drinker
Exercise frequency	20%	80%	Regular	Irregular
Stress level	50%	50%	Low	High
Sleep quality	70%	30%	Good	Poor
Dietary habits	60%	40%	Healthy	Unhealthy
Family size	3.5	1.5	1	6
Religious beliefs	80%	20%	Religious	Secular
Political views	50%	50%	Conservative	Liberal
Travel frequency	10%	90%	Frequent	Rarely
Language spoken	90%	10%	English	Other
Pets owned	30%	70%	Yes	No
Car ownership	80%	20%	Yes	No
Home ownership	70%	30%	Yes	No
Insurance status	90%	10%	Insured	Not insured
Volunteer work	10%	90%	Yes	No
Charitable donations	20%	80%	Yes	No
Community involvement	30%	70%	Yes	No
Political participation	10%	90%	Yes	No
Environmental awareness	80%	20%	High	Low
Climate change beliefs	90%	10%	Believer	Skeptic
Renewable energy support	70%	30%	Yes	No
Carbon footprint reduction	50%	50%	Yes	No
Waste recycling habits	60%	40%	Yes	No
Water conservation efforts	70%	30%	Yes	No
Energy efficiency measures	80%	20%	Yes	No
Green building preferences	90%	10%	Yes	No
Local food consumption	40%	60%	Yes	No
Organic food purchases	30%	70%	Yes	No
Plant-based diet adoption	20%	80%	Yes	No
Food waste reduction	50%	50%	Yes	No
Composting practices	10%	90%	Yes	No
Water bottle usage	80%	20%	Yes	No
Reusable bag usage	70%	30%	Yes	No
Public transit usage	60%	40%	Yes	No
Carpooling frequency	10%	90%	Yes	No
Bike commuting	20%	80%	Yes	No
Walking for transport	30%	70%	Yes	No
Carpooling membership	10%	90%	Yes	No
Public transit pass	50%	50%	Yes	No
Bike lane usage	30%	70%	Yes	No
Pedestrian crossing	40%	60%	Yes	No
Car safety features	90%	10%	Yes	No
Seat belt usage	80%	20%	Yes	No
Child safety seats	70%	30%	Yes	No
Car maintenance	60%	40%	Yes	No
Regular oil changes	50%	50%	Yes	No
Tire rotations	40%	60%	Yes	No
Brake checks	30%	70%	Yes	No
Car wash frequency	20%	80%	Yes	No
Car detailing	10%	90%	Yes	No
Car insurance	90%	10%	Yes	No
Car registration	80%	20%	Yes	No
Car title transfer	70%	30%	Yes	No
Car lease vs. buy	60%	40%	Lease	Buy
Car financing	50%	50%	Yes	No
Car rental frequency	10%	90%	Yes	No
Car sharing membership	20%	80%	Yes	No
Carpooling app usage	30%	70%	Yes	No
Public transit app	40%	60%	Yes	No
Bike sharing usage	50%	50%	Yes	No
Walking app	60%	40%	Yes	No
Car navigation app	70%	30%	Yes	No
Car maintenance app	80%	20%	Yes	No
Car insurance app	90%	10%	Yes	No
Car registration app	80%	20%	Yes	No
Car title transfer app	70%	30%	Yes	No
Car lease/buy app	60%	40%	Yes	No
Car financing app	50%	50%	Yes	No
Car rental app	40%	60%	Yes	No
Car sharing app	30%	70%	Yes	No
Carpooling app	20%	80%	Yes	No
Public transit app	10%	90%	Yes	No
Bike sharing app	50%	50%	Yes	No
Walking app	60%	40%	Yes	No
Car navigation app	70%	30%	Yes	No
Car maintenance app	80%	20%	Yes	No
Car insurance app	90%	10%	Yes	No
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Car title transfer app	70%	30%	Yes	No
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Car financing app	50%	50%		

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Car registration app	80%	20%	Yes	No
Car title transfer app	70%	30%	Yes	No
Car lease/buy app	60%	40%	Yes	No
Car financing app	50%	50%		

SUMMARY

Applicants respectfully request that the amendments set forth hereinabove be entered before substantive examination of the above-referenced application and request consideration in light of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record by telephone or by facsimile.

Respectfully submitted,



R. William Beard, Jr.

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910 Louisiana

Houston, Texas 77002-4995

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ATTORNEY OF RECORD

Date: _____

8/29/01